

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 NIC-01 RSR-01

CU-04 /087 W

----- 030607

R 231512Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4896

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PL

SUBJECT: POLISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

1. SUMMARY: THE POLISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS CLOSELY FOLLOWED THE PATTERN OF THE LAST FEW YEARS. THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, THERE WAS SOMEWHAT MORE PRAISE FOR THE SOVIET UNION. END SUMMARY

2. THE CELEBRATIONS CONNECTED WITH POLISH NATIONAL DAY, JULY 22, CLOSELY FOLLOWED THE PATTERN OF PREVIOUS NATIONAL DAYS DURING THE GIEREK YEARS. GIEREK, PREMIER JAROSZEWICZ, PRESIDENT JABLONSKI AND MOST OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP TOOK PART IN A SERIES OF EVENTS BEGINNING WITH AN AWARD CEREMONY FOR DESERVING WORKERS JULY 21, FOLLOWED BY A GALA AT THE WARSAW OPERA THE SAME EVENING, AND ENDING WITH AN APPEARANCE BEFORE THE DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL IN KRAKOW JULY 22. SATURDAY, JULY 21, WAS DECLARED A "DAY FREE FROM WORK"

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FOR WORKERS IN THE SOCIALIZED SECTOR (A WELCOME GESTURE,

SINCE THE OCCURENCE OF THE NATIONAL DAY ON A SUNDAY THIS YEAR WOULD OTHERWISE HAVE ROBBED WORKERS OF A HOLIDAY) AND MANY WARSAVIANS, ENJOYING A RARE WEEKEND OFF, CROWDED INTO THE CITY'S PARKS.

3. THE THEME OF THE FESTIVITIES, AS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, WAS A COMBINATION OF SELF-CONGRATULATION FOR PAST ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXHORTATIONS FOR GREATER EFFORTS IN THE FUTURE--PRIMARILY IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE. NEW THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, WAS A SOMEWHAT GREATER EMPHASIS ON PRAISE FOR THE SOVIET UNION. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY MARKED IN TRYBUNA LUDU'S NATIONAL DAY EDITORIAL JULY 22, WHICH DEVOTED ITS SECOND PARAGRAPH TO RECALLING THE SOVIET ROLE IN THE LIBERATION OF POLAND AND PRAISING THE POLISH-SOVIET ALLIANCE. JAROSZEWICZ ALSO PRAISED THE SOVIETS AT LENGTH IN HIS SPEECH AT THE NATIONAL DAY GALA JULY 21.

4. THE MEETING OF THE PARTY LEADERSHIP AND DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL IN KRAKOW JULY 22 WAS THE OCCASION FOR A SPEECH BY FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK. OF INTEREST IN AN OTHERWISE UNREMARKABLE SPEECH WERE GIEREK'S COMMENTS ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ACTIVISTS OF POLAND'S SOLE YOUTH ORGANIZATION DURING THE STALINIST YEARS, THE ZMP, AND HIS REMARK THAT THE PARTY LEADERSHIP APPROVED THE PROGRESS OF THE NEW FEDERATION OF SOCIALIST UNIONS OF POLISH YOUTH (FSZMP) --A STRONG FEDERATION OF THE FIVE EXISTING POLISH YOUTH GROUPS WHICH WAS CREATED LAST SPRING AND IS SEEN BY SOME OBSERVERS AS THE SUCCESSOR TO THE ZMP.

5. ABSENT FROM THE RANKS OF PARTY LEADERS AT NATIONAL DAY CEREMONIES WAS CC SECRETARY AND POLITBURO MEMBER JAN SZYDLAK. SZYDLAK'S WHEREABOUTS HAVE NOT BEEN NOTED IN THE PRESS OF LATE, BUT THIS IS NOT UNUSUAL IN THE VACATION SEASON. WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING TO INDICATE HE IS IN DISFAVOR.
DAVIES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973WARSAW03592
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: WARSAW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730715/aaaaakxa.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS
TAGS: PINT, PL, (GIEREK), (JARDSZEWICZ), (JABLONSKI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005